

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



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#### **2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #41**

#### **Summer Announcement #36, Subdistrict 5-D Subsistence Fishing Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 96,300 Chinook salmon through July 8 is well below the historical average of 138,000 for this date, and is also below the average passage estimates at this point for late run years, of approximately 123,000.

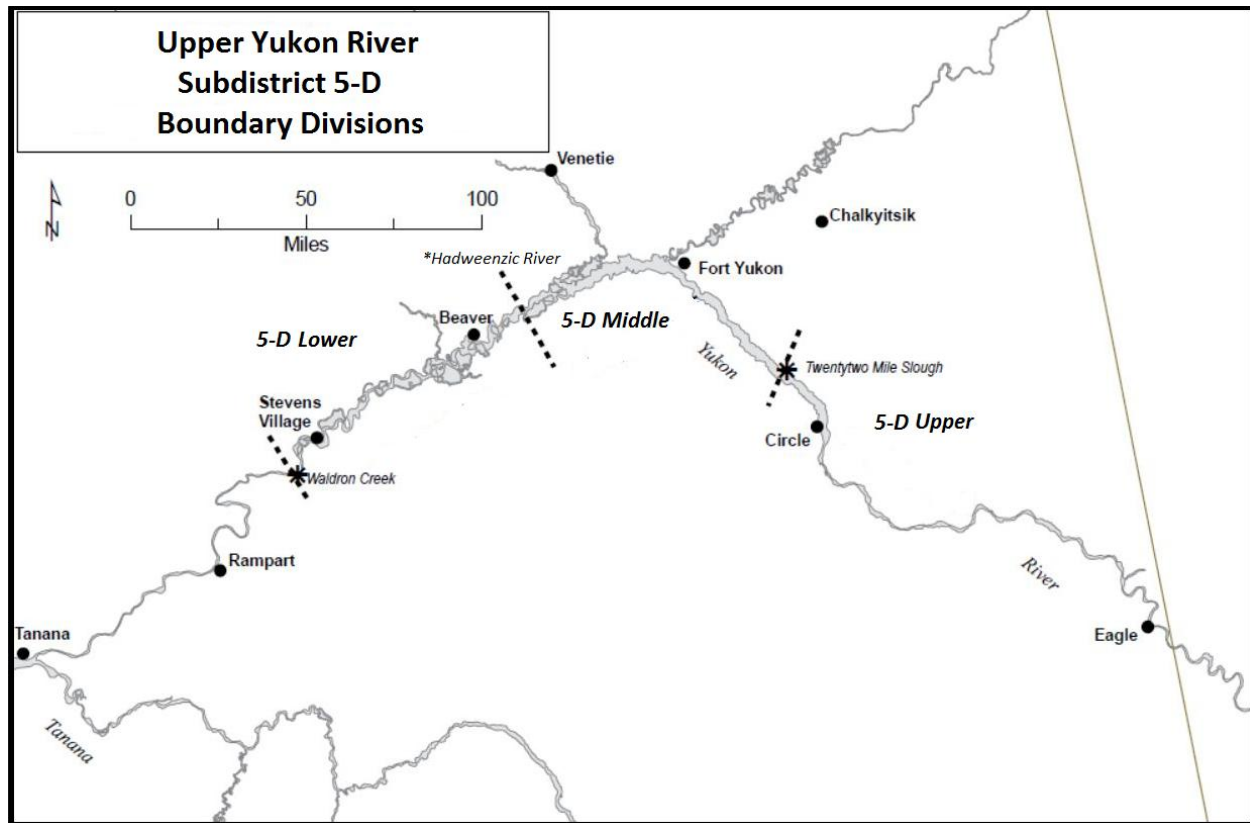
Consistent with preseason management strategies, subsistence fishing periods have already been canceled in downriver districts and similar actions are being implemented in Subdistrict 5-D. In an effort to protect Chinook salmon as they pass through this long section of river, Subdistrict 5-D will be divided into three separate areas.

**Subdistricts 5-D Lower** (from an ADF&G regulatory marker 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the Hadweenzic River and including all adjacent tributaries): This area includes the communities of Stevens Village and Beaver. Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours per day 7 days per week. Subsistence salmon fishing will close at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, July 12 and will remain closed until further notice. The department will notify fishermen by July 15 concerning the subsistence salmon fishing schedule for this lower portion of Subdistrict 5-D.

**Subdistricts 5-D Middle** (from the Hadweenzic River upstream to 22 Mile Slough and including all adjacent tributaries): This area includes the community of Fort Yukon. Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours per day 7 days per week.

**Subdistrict 5-D Upper** (from 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border and including all adjacent tributaries): This area includes the communities of Circle, and Eagle. Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours per day 7 days per week.

**Map 1: Division of Subdistrict 5-D**



Fishermen in Subdistrict 5-D can anticipate that significant reductions in the subsistence salmon fishing schedule will be necessary in order to protect the major pulses of Chinook salmon. Fishermen in Subdistrict 5-D should stand by for short notice news releases regarding changes to the subsistence salmon fishing schedules.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C and 5-D from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the Dall River, and from the upstream mouth of 22-Mile Slough to the US/Canada Border. Subsistence fishermen outside of the permit area are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon catch calendars. Calendars are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

In District 5, fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller during open subsistence salmon fishing periods.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at (907) 949-1320 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1845.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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